IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1   1.   (Currently Amended) A method for conducting a packet-based call

2   between a calling party and a called party over a public network, ~~wherein packets that~~

3   ~~originate from the calling party including an associated source address on said public~~

4   ~~network,~~ the method comprising:

5   receiving over an access network packets originating from the calling party,

6   each of said packets including an associated source address on said public network, said

7   source address having a predetermined format,

8   translating said source address into a translated source address having said

9   predetermined format, said source address translating being such ~~in such a way~~ that no

10   portion of the source address can be determined from the translated source address; and

11   sending said calling-party-originated packets to the called party, said calling-

12   party-originated packets including the translated source address and not said source

13   address.

1   2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said packets that

2   originate from the called party include an associated destination address on said public

3   network, said destination address having said predetermined format, and wherein the

4   method further comprises

5   translating said destination address into a translated destination address having

6   said predetermined format, said destination address translating being such ~~in such a way~~

7   that no portion of the destination address can be determined from the translated

8   destination address; and

9   sending said called-party-originated packets to the calling party, said called-

10   party-originated packets including the translated destination address and not said

11   destination address.

1   3.   (Original) A method for connecting a call between a calling party and a

2   called party, comprising:

3   translating a first source address into a first global address, the first source

4   address being local to a first network and being associated with the calling party;

5   translating a first destination address into a second global address;

6   sending the first global address and the second global address from a first

7   network edge device to a second network edge device, the first network edge device

8   connecting the first network and a second network, the second network edge device

9   connecting a third network to the second network, the third network being associated

10   with the called party;

11   translating the first global address into a second source address, the second

12   source address being local to the third network;

13   translating the second global address into a second destination address, the

14   second destination address being local to the third network and being associated with

15   the called party

1   4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

2   the first source address and the first destination address are translated at the first

3   edge router for a plurality of packets associated with the call, and

4   the first global address and the second global address are translated at the second

5   edge router for the plurality of packets associated with the call.

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1   5.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

2   the first source address and the first destination address are translated at the first

3   edge router connecting the first network and the second network

4   the first global address and the second global address are translated at the second

5   edge router connecting the second network and the third network.

1   6.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

2   the first source address and the second source address are associated with an

3   originating interface unit within the first network, and

4   the first destination address and the second destination address are associated

5   with a terminating interface unit within the third network.

1   7.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

2   the first network and the third network are untrusted networks, and

3   the second network is a trusted network

1   8.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

2   releasing the first global address and the second global address after the call is

3   completed; and

4   translating a third source address into the first global address, the third source

5   address being local to the first network and being associated with a second calling party.

1   9.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

2   the second destination address is translated into the second global address for a

3   plurality of packets associated with the call and being sent from the called party to the

4   calling party;

5   the second source address is translated into the first global address for the

6   plurality of packets;

7   the first global address is translated into the first source address for the plurality

8   of packets; and

9   the second global address is translated into the first destination address for the

10   plurality of packets.

1   10.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein:

2   the first source address and the first destination address are translated at the first

3   network edge device for a first plurality of packets associated with the call and being

4   sent from the calling party to the called party,

5   the first global address and the second global address are translated at the second

6   network edge device for the first plurality of packets associated with the call and being

7   sent from the calling party to the called party.

1   11.   (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

2   translating the second destination address into the second global address for a

3   second plurality of packets associated with the call and being sent from the called party

4   to the calling party;

5   translating the second source address into the first global address for the second

6   plurality of packets;

7   translating the first global address into the first source address for the second

8   plurality of packets; and

9   translating the second global address into the first destination address for the

10   second plurality of packets.

12-22. (Canceled)

1   23.   (Original) A method for privately connecting a call between a calling

2   party and a called party, comprising:

3   receiving a first global address and a second global address, the first global

4   address being a translation of a first source address, the first source address being local

5   to a first network and being associated with the calling party, the second global address

6   being a translation of a first destination address, the first destination address being

7   associated with the called party;

8   translating the first global address into a second source address, the second

9   source address being local to a second network; and

10   translating the second global address into a second destination address, the

11   second destination address being local to the second network and being associated with

12   the called party.

1   24.   (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein:

2   the first global address and the second global address are translated for a

3   plurality of packets associated with the call and being sent from the calling party to the

4   called party,

5   the first global address and the second global address are translated at an edge

6   router connecting a third network to the second network.

1   25.   (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein:

2   the first source address and the second source address are associated with an

3   originating telephone broadband interface within the first network, and

4   the first destination address and the second destination address are associated

5   with a terminating broadband interface within the second network.

1   26.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, wherein

2   the first global address and the second global address are translated at an edge

3   router connecting a third network to the second network,

4   and wherein the first network and the second network are not under the control

5   of the third network.

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7   27.   (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

8   releasing the first global address and the second global address after the call is

9   completed; and

10   translating the first global address into a third source address, the third source

11   address being local to the second network and being associated with a second called

12   party.

1   28.   (Original) The method of claim 23, wherein:

2   the first global address is translated into a second source address for a first

3   plurality of packets associated with the call and being sent from the calling party to the

4   called party; and

5   the second global address is translated into a second destination address for the

6   first plurality of packets.

1   29.   (Original) The method of claim 28, further comprising:

2   translating the second source address into the first global address for a second

3   plurality of packets associated with the call and being sent from the called party to the

4   calling party; and

5   translating the second destination address into the second global address for the

6   second plurality of packets.

30 – 36.   (Canceled)

1   37.   (Original) A method for connecting a call between a calling party and a

2   called party, comprising:

3   translating a first local address into a first global address, the first local address

4   being associated with a first network;

5   sending the first global address from a first network edge device to a second

6   network edge device, the first network edge device connecting the first network and a

7   second network, the second network edge device connecting a third network to the

8   second network; and

9   translating the first global address into a second local address, the second local

10   address being associated with the third network.

1   38.   (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein:

2   the first local address is associated with the calling party, the first network is

3   associated with the calling party,

4   the second local address is associated with the called party, the second network

5   is associated with the called party.

1   39.   (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein:

2   the first local address is associated with the called party, the first network is

3   associated with the called party,

4   the second local address is associated with the calling party, the second network

5   is associated with the calling party.

1   40.   (Original) The method of claim 37, further comprising:

2   releasing the first global address after the call is completed; and

3   translating a third local address into the first global address, the third local

4   address being associated with a second call.

1   41.   (Original) The method of claim 37, further comprising:

2   translating a second local address into a second global address, the second local

3   address being associated with the third network;

4   sending the second global address from the second network edge device to the

5   first network edge device; and

6   translating the second global address into a third local address, the third local

7   address being associated with the first network.

1   42.   (Currently Amended) A method for connecting a call between a calling

2   party and a called party, comprising:

3   receiving, from a first network edge device at a second network edge device, a

4   first global address being that is a translation of the a first local address, the first local

5   address being associated with a first network, the first network edge device connecting

6   the first network and a second network, the second network edge device connecting a

7   third network to the second network; and

8   translating the first global address into a second local address, the second local

9   address being associated with the third network.

1   43.   (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein:

2   the first local address is associated with the calling party, the first network is

3   associated with the calling party,

4   the second local address is associated with the called party, the second network

5   is associated with the called party.

1   44.   (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein:

2   the first local address is associated with the called party, the first network is

3   associated with the called party,

4   the second local address is associated with the calling party, the second network

5   is associated with the calling party.

1   45.   (Original) The method of claim 42, further comprising:

2   releasing the first global address after the call is completed; and

3   translating a third local address into the first global address, the third local

4   address being associated with a second call.

1   46.   (Original) The method of claim 42, further comprising:

2   translating a second local address into a second global address, the second local

3   address being associated with the third network;

4   sending the second global address from the second network edge device to the

5   first network edge device; and

6   translating the second global address into a third local address, the third local

7   address being associated with the first network.